

CUESTA FIRE NEWS RELEASE



Incident Information Line: (805) 543-2444

www.fire.ca.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: *Forest Closure Order for Santa Lucia Wilderness Area*

Contact: Cuesta Fire Information Line (805) 543-2444

What: A Forest Closure Order has been issued for the Santa Lucia Wilderness Area in the Los Padres National Forest as a result of the Cuesta Fire. The order will remain in effect through October 1, 2015, to provide for public safety due to ongoing fire suppression operations, limited road access, and to ensure that no one is injured within the fire perimeter.

The closure order prohibits public entry into all areas of the Santa Lucia Wilderness, including the Upper Lopez, Hi Mountain, and Sulphur Pot campgrounds, and the Little Falls, Big Falls, Rinconada, Trout Creek, and Upper Lopez trails. This area also includes Hi Mountain Lookout as well as the Garcia Ridge OHV trail.

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine or up to \$5,000 for an individual, and up to \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for up to six months or both.

The road and trail closure order and map of the closure area are attached, and can also be found on the Los Padres National Forest website at <http://fs.usda.gov/lpnf>. Forest visitors are encouraged to contact the Santa Lucia Ranger District at [\(805\) 925-9538](tel:8059259538) for more detailed information about this area and for the latest conditions.

Cooperating Agencies: San Luis Obispo County Sheriff, San Luis Obispo County OES, California Highway Patrol, Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California Conservation Corps, CAL OES, and the American Red Cross.

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